32

# KARAKURI CIRCUS

Vol. 32

## Staff :

Translation : Kaidu/KenShiro
Redrawing : Marlley/Stefe
Typesetting : liiik

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NAKAMACHI SCANLATION

Recruitment
We are desperately in need of japanese>eng translators to keep a good release pace.
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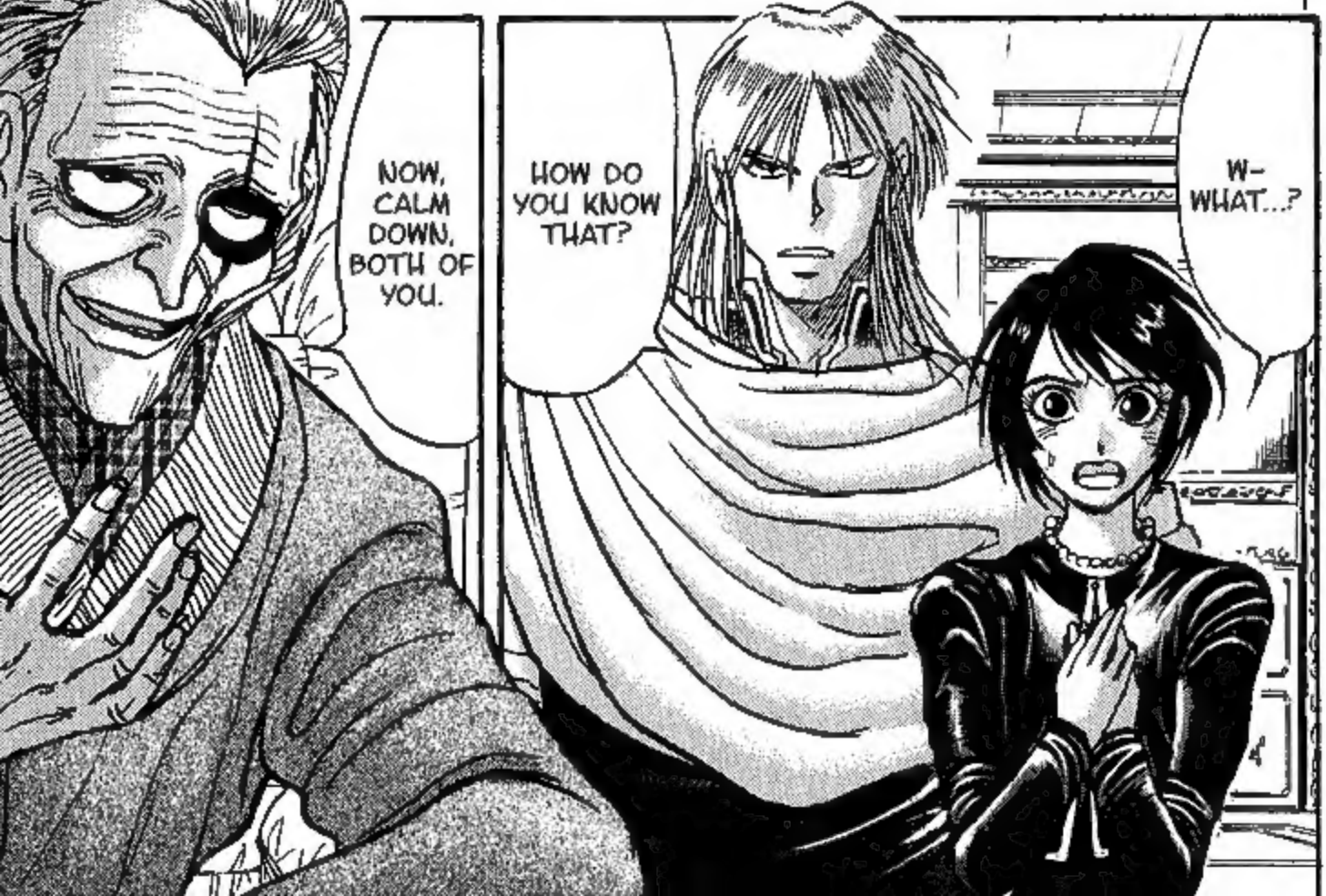
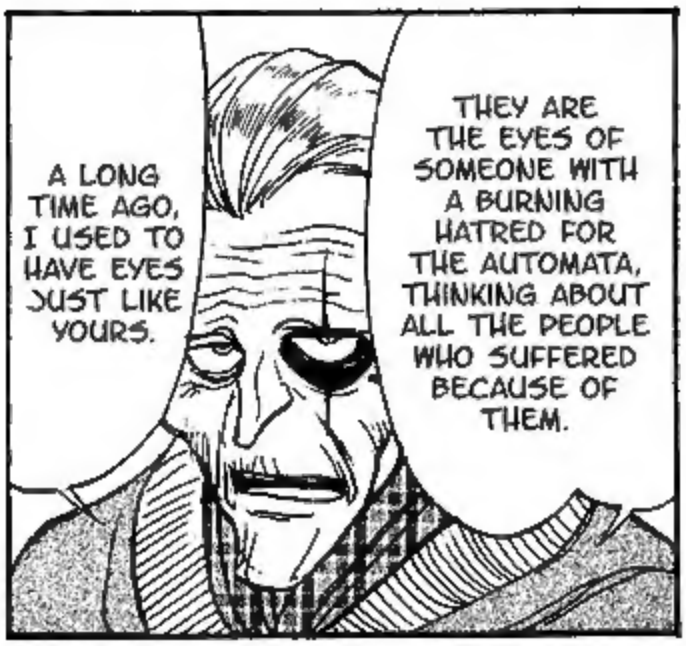
# Act.7 — Narumi's Void III

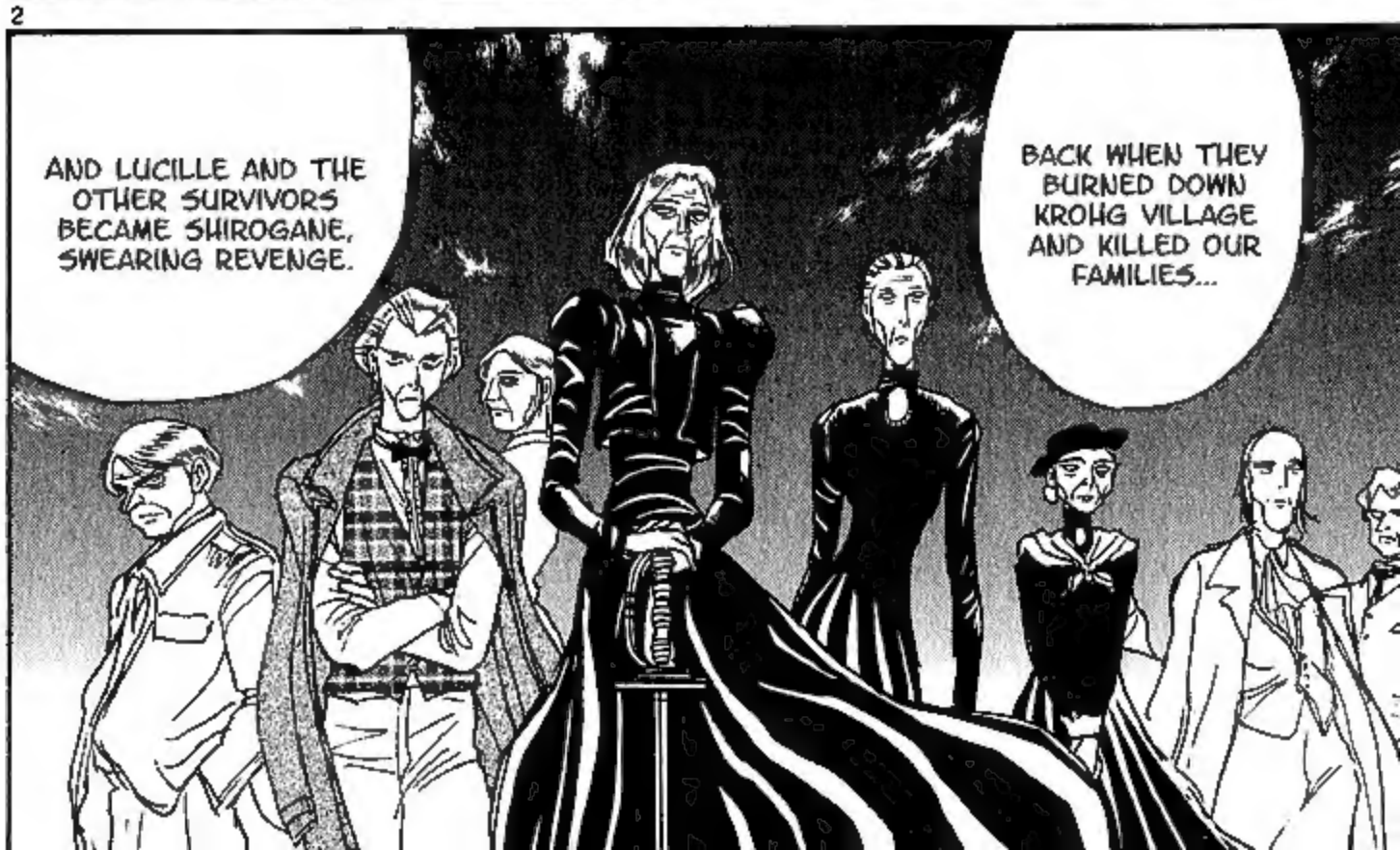


HURRY UP AND ANSWER ME!
T-THANK YOU.
HERE, IT'S LEMON-GRASS TEA.


A LONG TIME AGO, I USED TO HAVE EYES JUST LIKE YOURS.
THEY ARE THE EYES OF SOMEONE WITH A BURNING HATRED FOR THE AUTOMATA, THINKING ABOUT ALL THE PEOPLE WHO SUFFERED BECAUSE OF THEM.

HUH?
THOSE EYES...

2


AND LUCILLE AND THE OTHER SURVIVORS BECAME SHIROGANE, SWEARING REVENGE.
BACK WHEN THEY BURNED DOWN KROHG VILLAGE AND KILLED OUR FAMILIES...

...IS THAT TRUE?
IF YOU ARE REALLY A SHIROGANE, WHY DIDN'T YOU GO TO THE SAHARA BATTLE?
THAT'S RIGHT...
THAT WAS SUPPOSED TO BE AN ALL-OUT BATTLE. YOU MUST BE LYING.
IT SEEMS... I HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO PROVE IT...

3

AH...!!

GO ON, DON'T WORRY.
BUT... BUT...
WELL THEN, GO AHEAD.

AHH, STAY WHERE YOU ARE.
W-WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!

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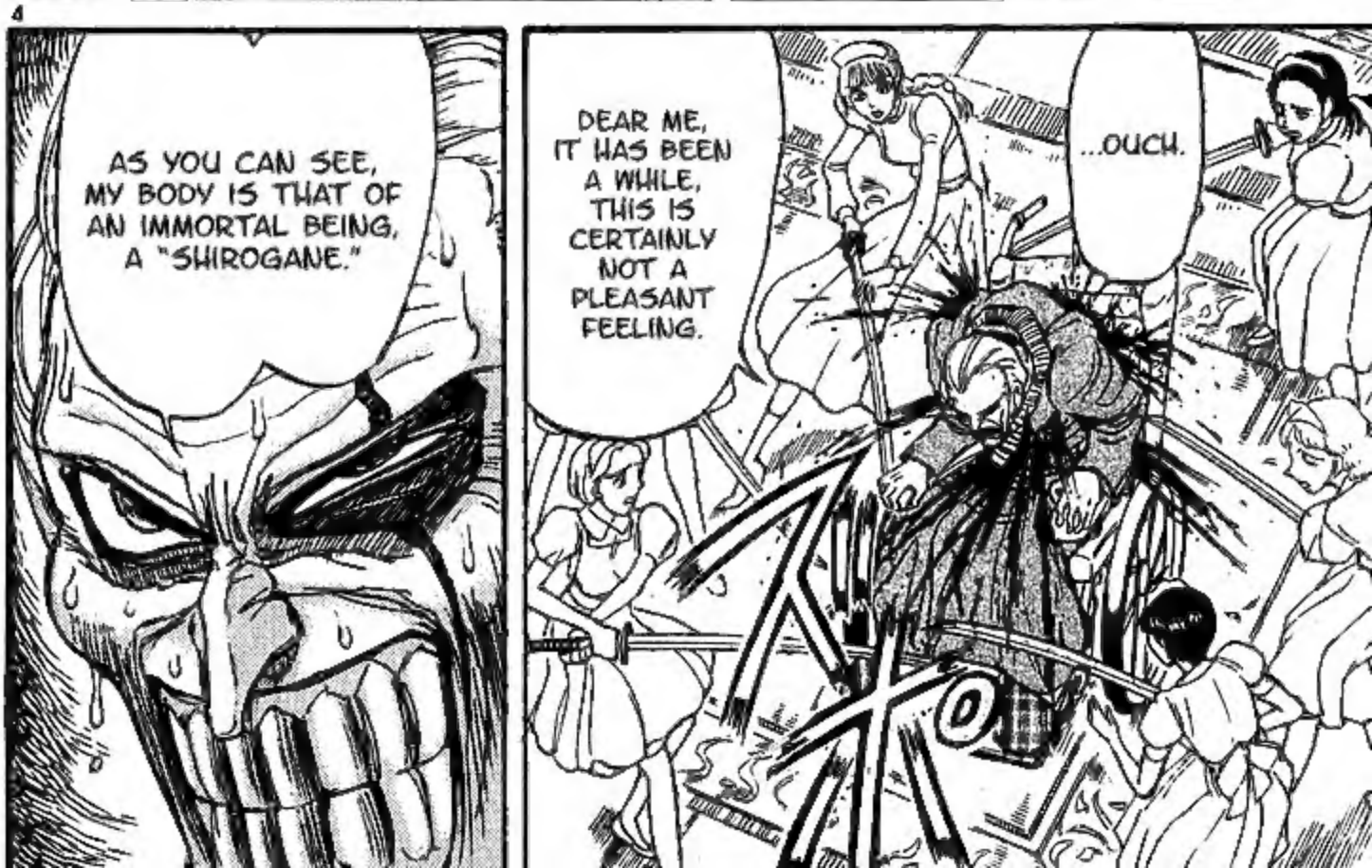
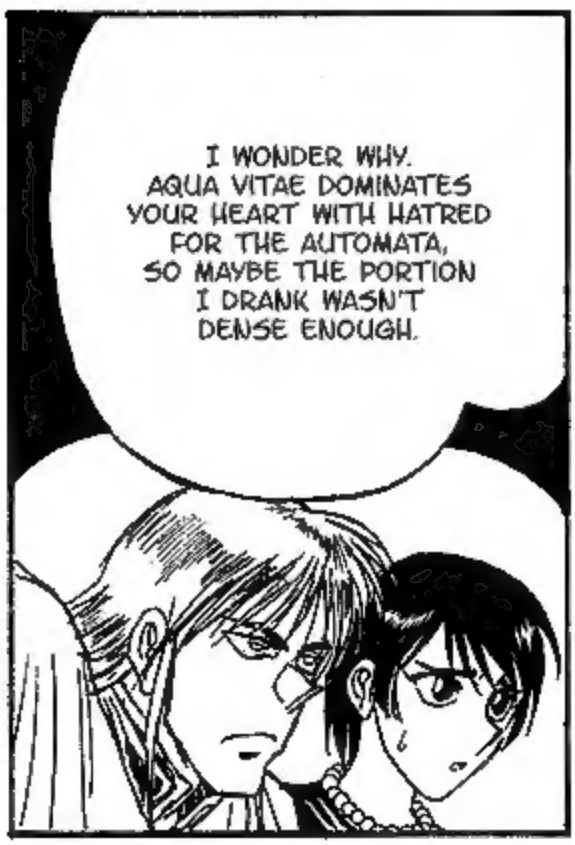
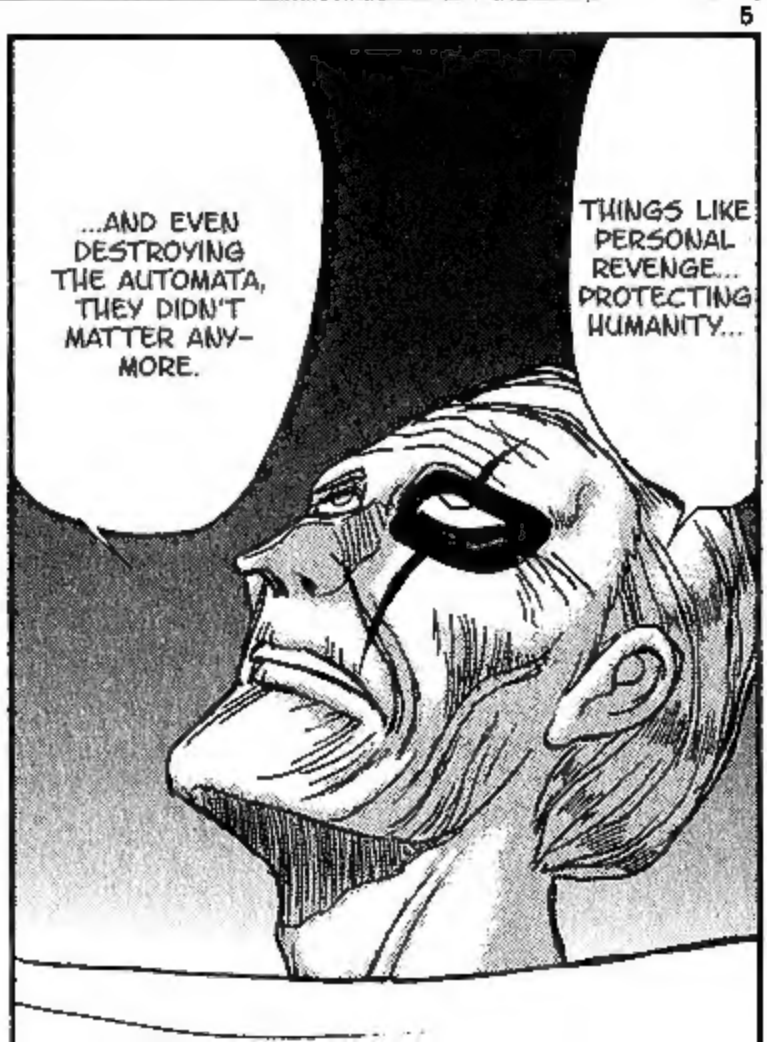

AS YOU CAN SEE, MY BODY IS THAT OF AN IMMORTAL BEING, A "SHIROGANE."
DEAR ME, IT HAS BEEN A WHILE, THIS IS CERTAINLY NOT A PLEASANT FEELING.
...OUCH.

AND WHAT ABOUT THE SAHARA DESERT...?
MING-XIA, I WAS ONCE A SCIENTIST AND AN ENGINEER, YOU SEE... I WOULDN'T BE SATISFIED WITHOUT AN ACTUAL PROOF.
NO WAY... YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO STAB YOURSELF FOR THAT, MR. FOU!

I... LOST THOSE EYES YOU NOW HAVE...
...ONE DAY, SOME-THING HAPPENED.
...I FORGOT WHEN, BUT...

5


I WONDER WHY. AQUA VITAE DOMINATES YOUR HEART WITH HATRED FOR THE AUTOMATA, SO MAYBE THE PORTION I DRANK WASN'T DENSE ENOUGH.

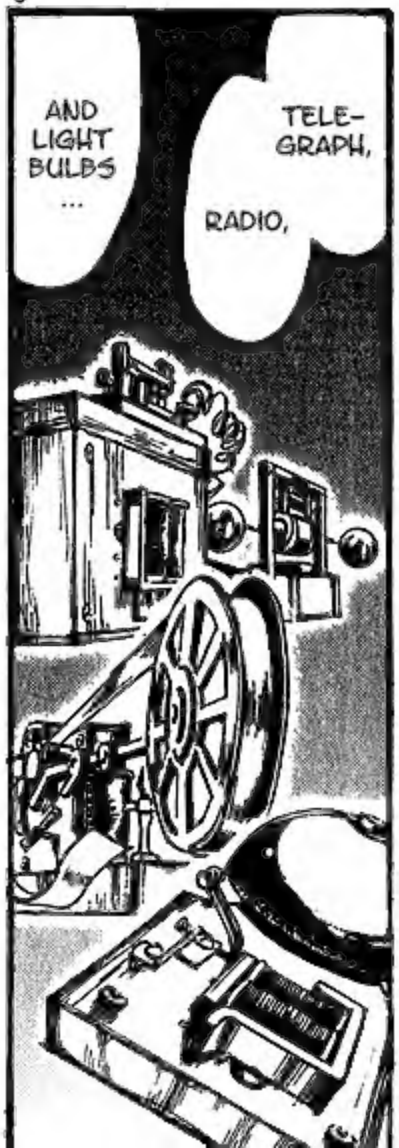

...AND EVEN DESTROYING THE AUTOMATA, THEY DIDN'T MATTER ANY-MORE.
THINGS LIKE PERSONAL REVENGE... PROTECTING HUMANITY...

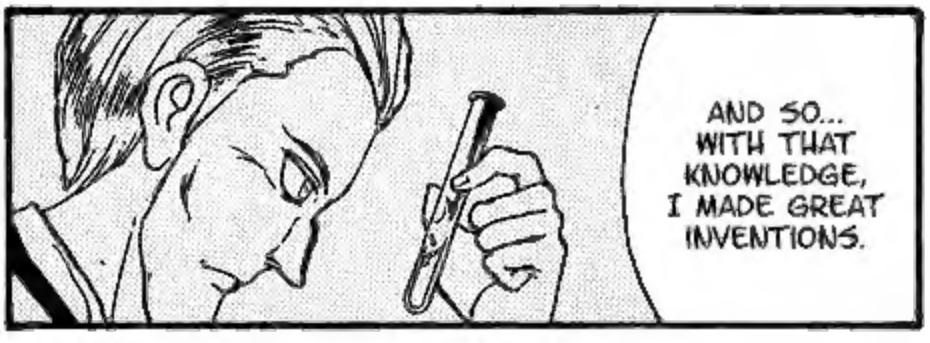
THE PATH OF RESEARCH AND BUSINESS.
I CHOSE A DIFFERENT PATH THAN LUCILLE AND THE OTHERS...

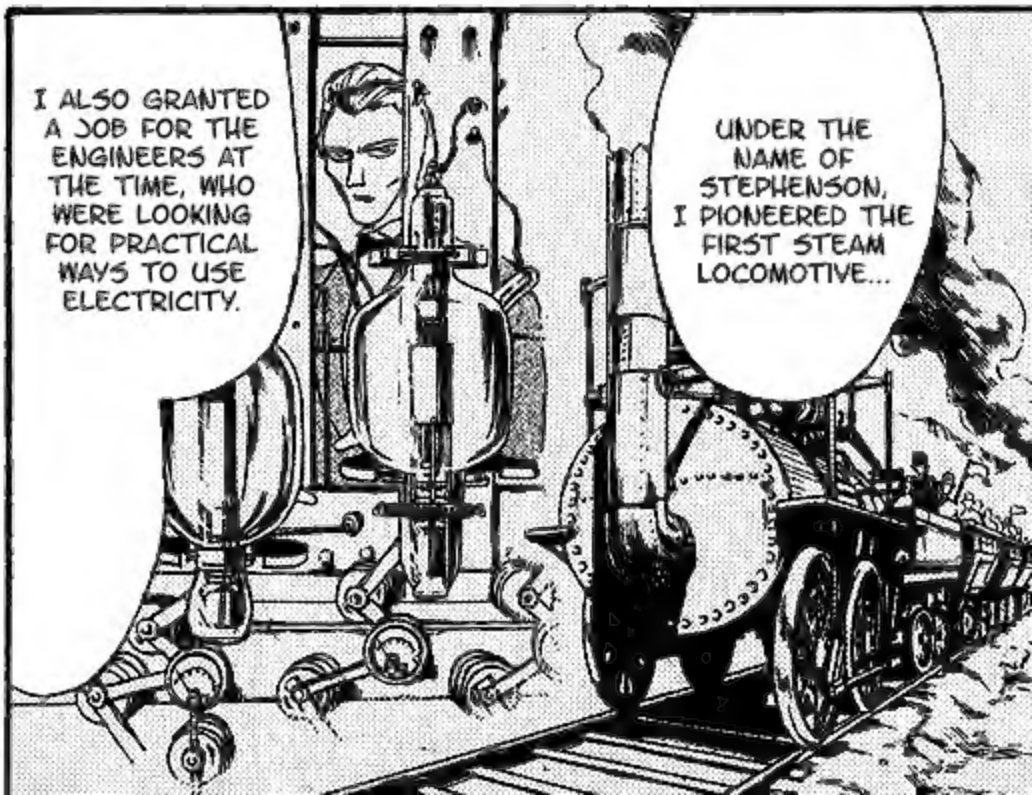
SO YOU QUIT BEING A SHIRO-GANE?

I BECAME AN INTENSE RESEARCHER, STUDYING FROM THE ALCHEMY OF ARABIAN SCIENCE, TO THE VAST ACADEMICS OF CHINA AND THE LATEST TECHNOLOGIES OF EUROPE.
AFTER ALL, I AGE FIVE TIMES SLOWER THAN A NORMAL PERSON. I HAD MORE THAN ENOUGH TIME IN MY HANDS.




TELE-GRAPH,
RADIO,
AND LIGHT BULBS ...


AND SO... WITH THAT KNOWLEDGE, I MADE GREAT INVENTIONS.


I ALSO GRANTED A JOB FOR THE ENGINEERS AT THE TIME, WHO WERE LOOKING FOR PRACTICAL WAYS TO USE ELECTRICITY.
UNDER THE NAME OF STEPHENSON, I PIONEERED THE FIRST STEAM LOCOMOTIVE...

※1.アレクサンダー・グラハム・ベル。電話の発明者。※2.発明王。

BASICALLY 30% OF THE WORLD'S COMMO-DITIES BELONG TO MR. FOU.
MR. FOU CONTROLS NOT ONLY THE POLITICAL AND BUSINESS CIRCLES OF AMERICA, BUT ALSO THE FINANCIAL CONGLOMERATES OF EUROPEAN COUNTRIES, ARAB OIL-PRODUCING COUNTRIES, AND EVEN RARE METAL EXPORTING COUNTRIES.
SMALL, YOU SAY? UHUHUH, OH, PLEASE.

I KNOW, BUT HEAR ME OUT A BIT.
NO ONE ASKED ABOUT THE STORY OF YOUR SUCCESS!
O-ONE THIRD? NO WAY... THAT'S SURREAL...

THAT'S ENOUGH. IN OTHER WORDS, I'M AN IMMORTAL PERSON DOING SOMETHING DIFFERENT FROM LUCILLE.
BESIDES, ALONG WITH THE INEXHAUSTIBLE FUNDS FOR THEIR ACTIVIES, MR. FOU EVEN--
YOU SEE, SHIROGANE ACTIVITIES OVERSEAS BECAME A LOT EASIER THANKS TO MR. FOU'S CONTINUOUS SUPPORT.
MY, WHAT A RUDE VISITOR.

FOOL
"FOOL"
IT MEANS "CLOWN"
IN OTHER WORDS, ME
AND NOW I'M TRYING TO BE THE NUMBER ONE AUDIENCE I THINK AM THE ULTIMATE CLOWN
I WAS PUT A MERE ACTOR IN THE COMEDY OF SUBCONSCIOUS AND AUTOMATA

I DON'T LIKE IT
MIN MING-HAI


AND WHEN ALL THE OTHER SHIROGANE COULDN'T RETURN HOME...
WHEN LUCILLE AND FATIMA WERE SHEDDING BLOOD.
FOU, IT'S LIKE YOU'RE SAYING IT'S FINE TO DROP OUT OF THE SHIROGANE IF YOU CAN JUST GIVE OUT MONEY

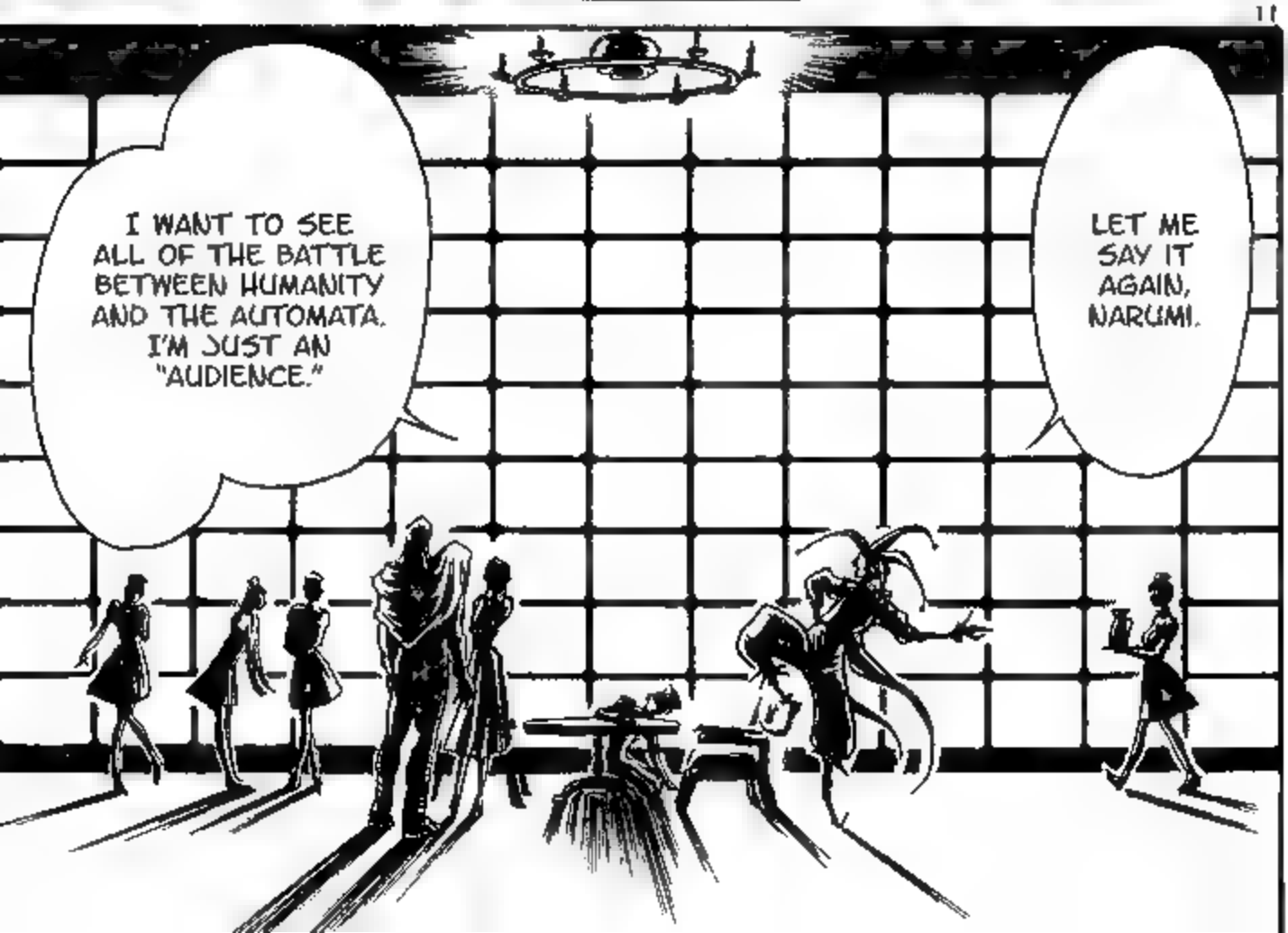
YOU MAKE A GOOD POINT, NARUMI.

IN A WAR, YOU ALSO NEED PEOPLE LIKE FOU.
MING-HAI, I GET WHAT YOU'RE SAYING, BUT

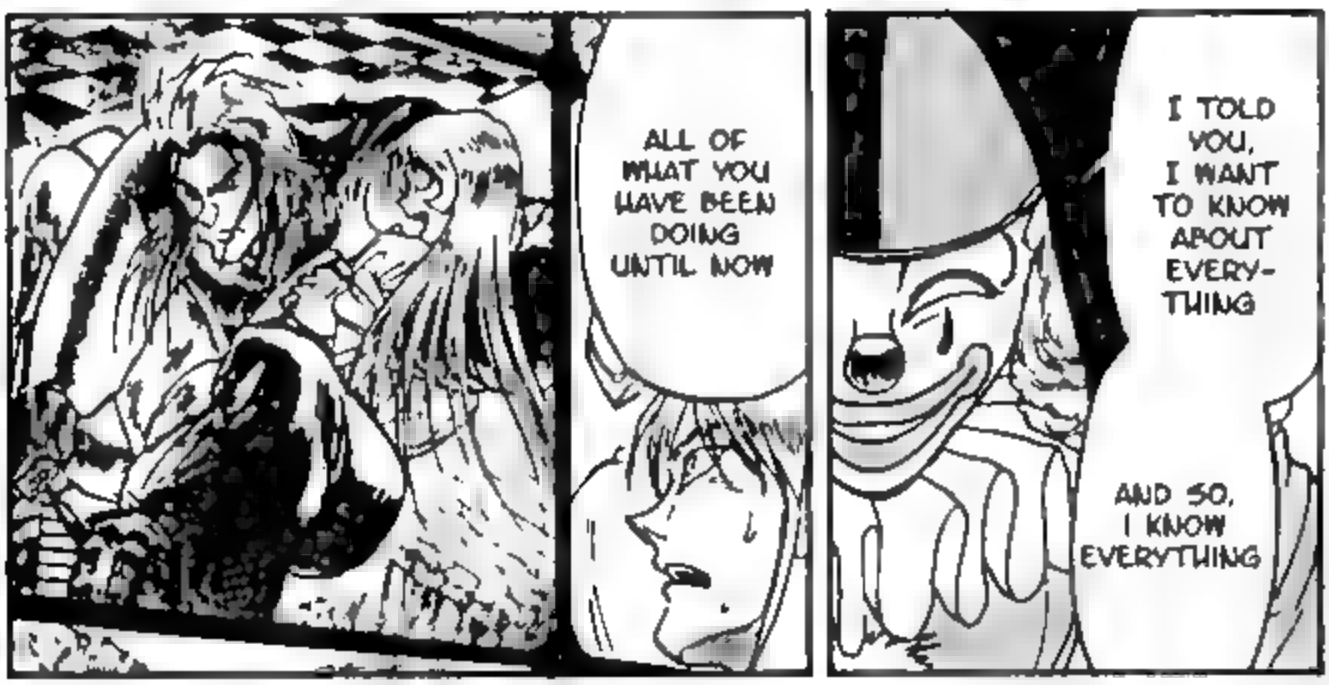
WHAT WERE YOU DOING THEN?!

EVEN THOUGH I STOPPED BEING AN ACTOR,
I CAN'T STAND NOT KNOWING THE ENTIRE STORY OF THIS COMEDY
THIS IS..?
THE AUDIENCE WANTS TO KNOW EVERY-THING.
I WANT TO KNOW EVERY-THING




I WANT TO SEE ALL OF THE BATTLE BETWEEN HUMANITY AND THE AUTOMATA. I'M JUST AN "AUDIENCE."
LET ME SAY IT AGAIN, NARUMI.

WHY IS THERE A VIDEO OF THAT HERE ?
WHAT IS THIS ?

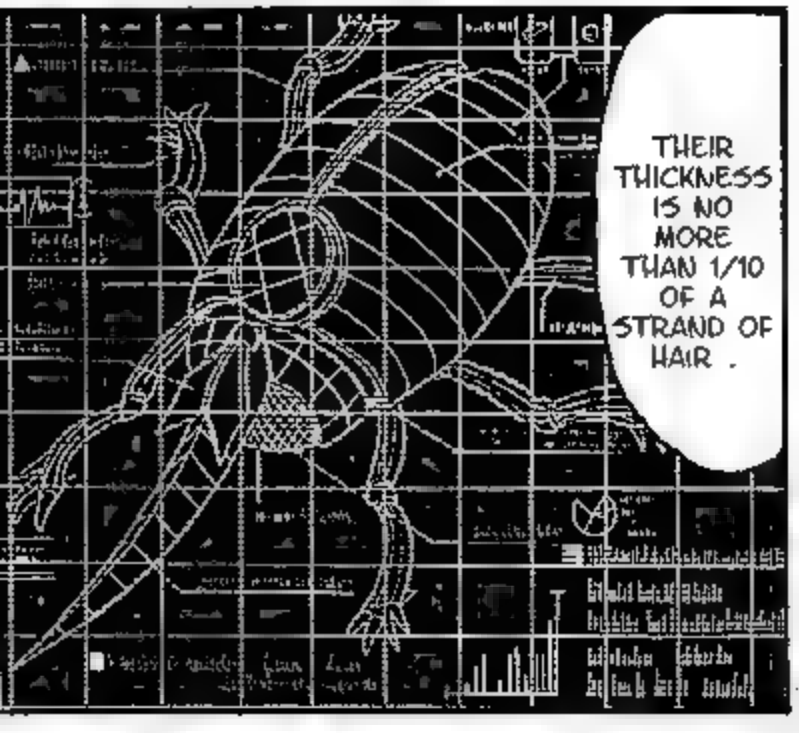

ALL OF WHAT YOU HAVE BEEN DOING UNTIL NOW
I TOLD YOU, I WANT TO KNOW ABOUT EVERY-THING
AND SO, I KNOW EVERYTHING

12

AHH!
!?

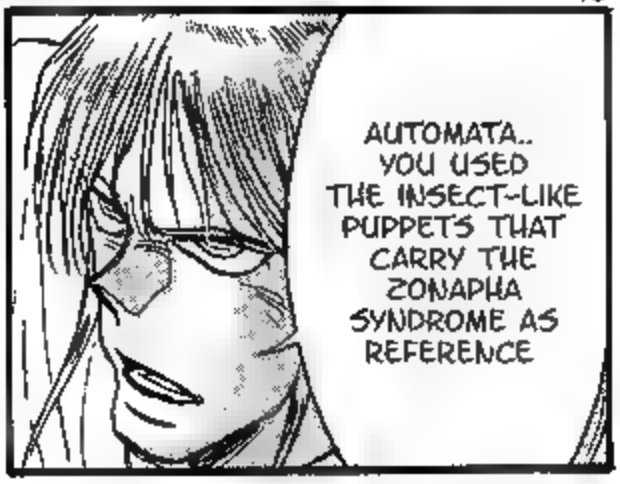
WHEN DID YOU TAKE THIS?
THERE WASN'T ANY-BODY ELSE AT THE TIME

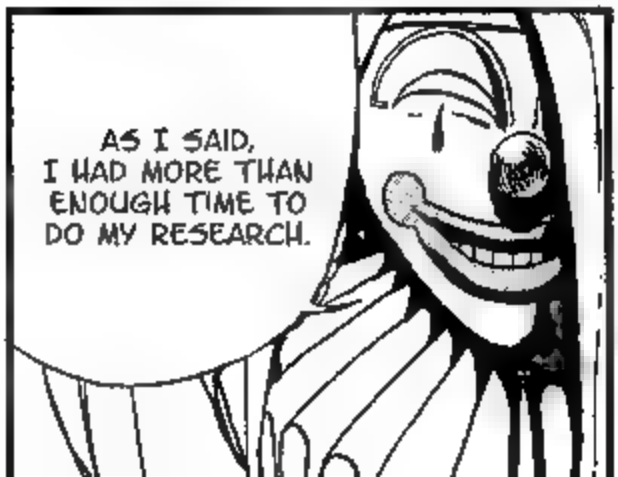
I CALL THEM "EYE-SECTS."
THEY HAVE BEEN LURKING AROUND YOUR BODIES ALL THIS TIME
WHAT IS THIS GLOWING SMOKE?


THEIR THICKNESS IS NO MORE THAN 1/10 OF A STRAND OF HAIR .

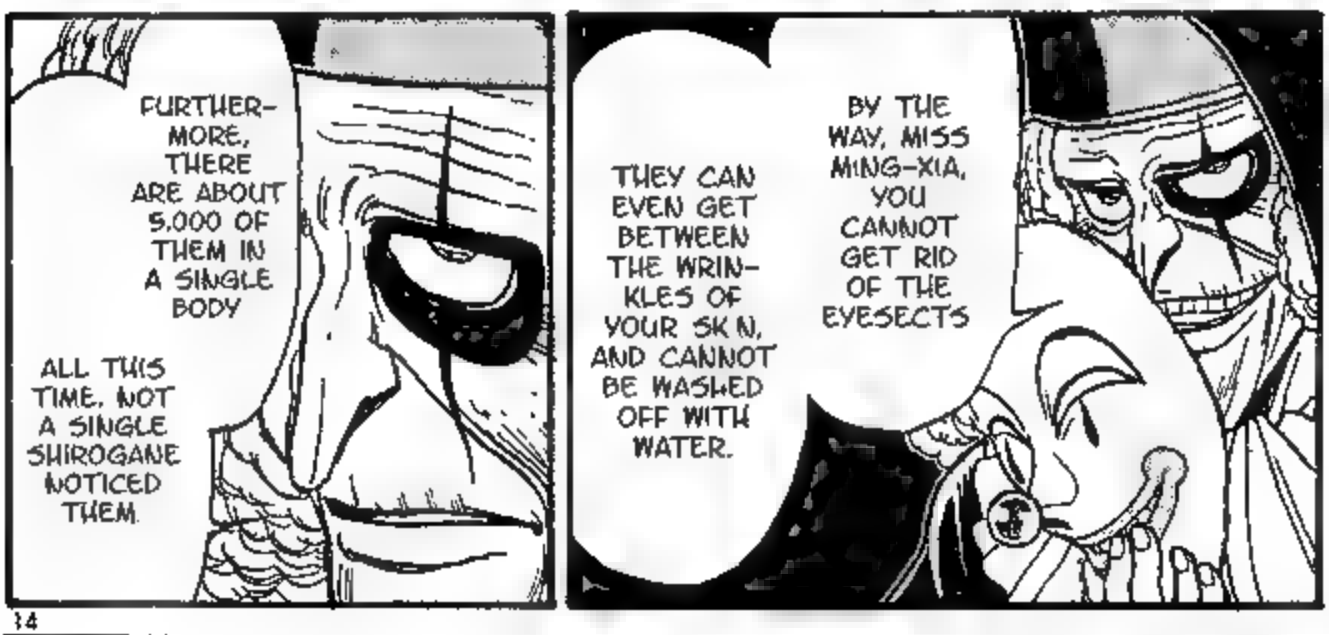
EYESECTS. THEY ARE A SMALL INSECT-TYPE AUTOMATA WITH A CAMERA, A MICROPHONE, AND A TRANS-MISSION SYSTEM
EYE WHAT?

SO I COULD LEARN EVERYTHING THEY KNOW
I PUT EYESECTS ON THE BODIES OF SHIROGANES FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD

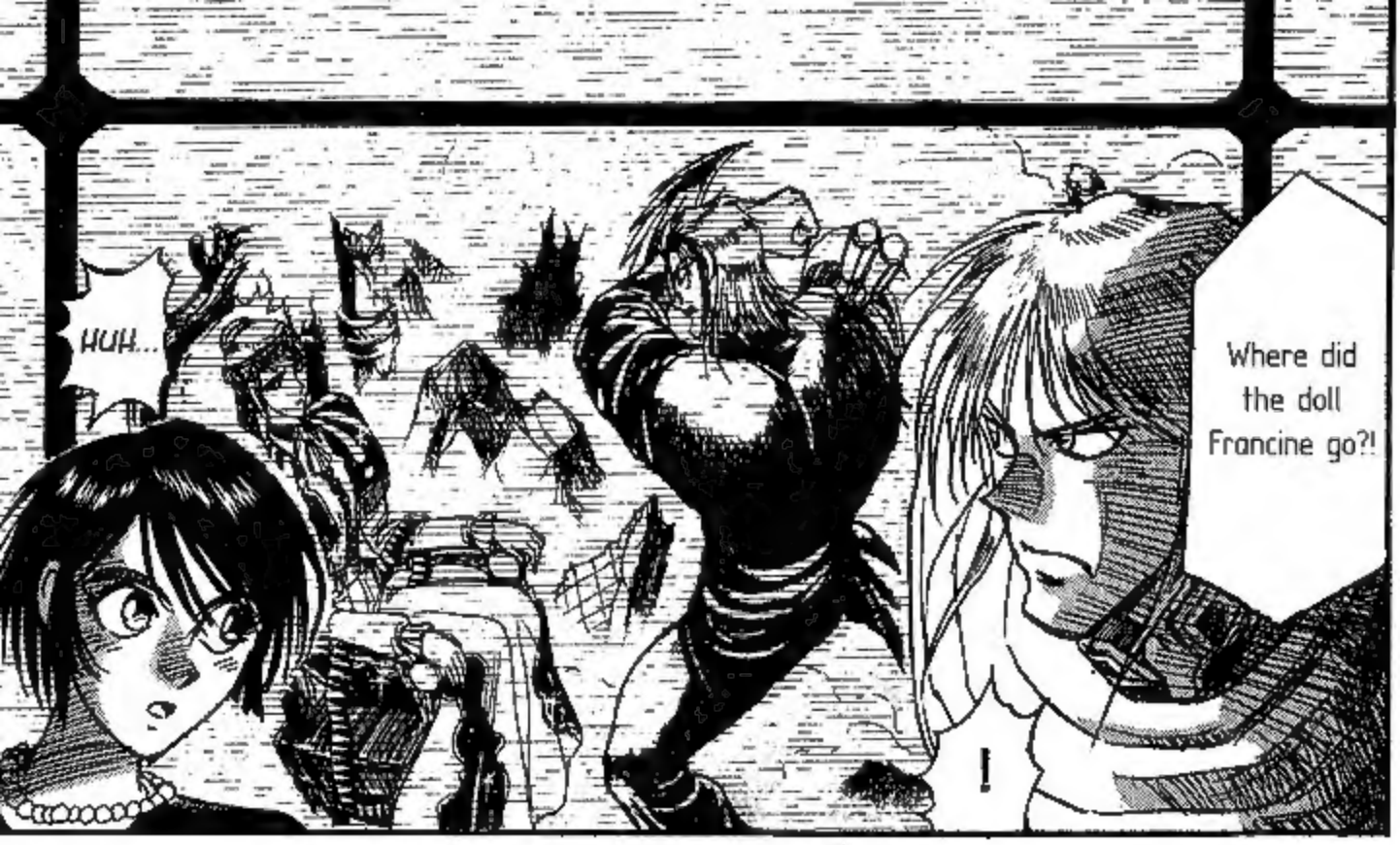

AUTOMATA.. YOU USED THE INSECT-LIKE PUPPETS THAT CARRY THE ZONAPHA SYNDROME AS REFERENCE

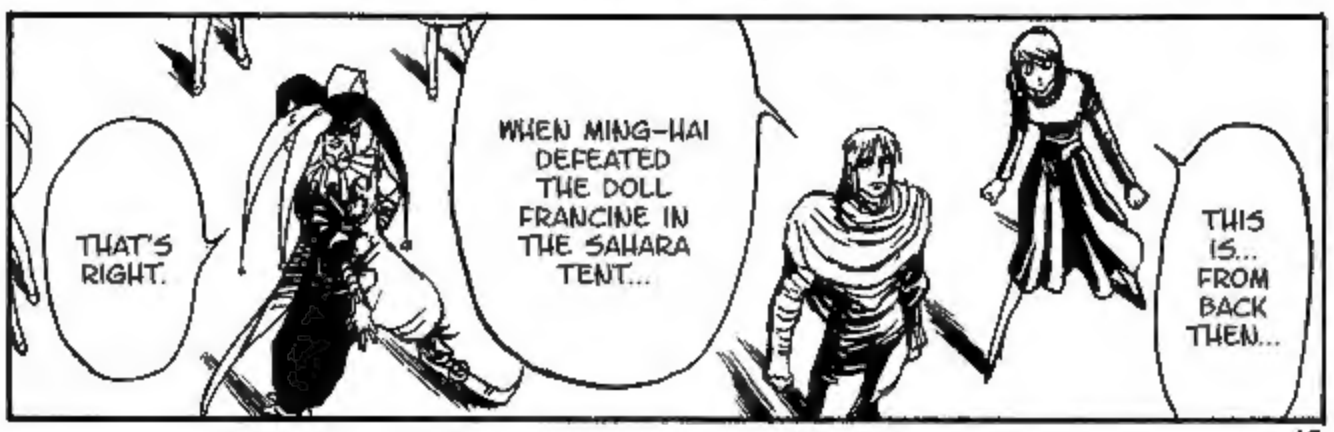

AS I SAID, I HAD MORE THAN ENOUGH TIME TO DO MY RESEARCH.

NO WAY! ARE YOU SAYING THAT THOSE INSECTS ARE ON OUR BODIES EVEN NOW?!
SO THOSE INSECTS TRANS-MITTED WHAT I'VE EXPE-RIENCED TO YOU?
YES, EVERY-THING WITH THE EXCEPTION OF SMELL AND FEEL.


BY THE WAY, MISS MING-XIA, YOU CANNOT GET RID OF THE EYESECTS
THEY CAN EVEN GET BETWEEN THE WRIN-KLES OF YOUR SKIN, AND CANNOT BE WASHED OFF WITH WATER.
FURTHER-MORE, THERE ARE ABOUT 5,000 OF THEM IN A SINGLE BODY
ALL THIS TIME, NOT A SINGLE SHIROGANE NOTICED THEM.

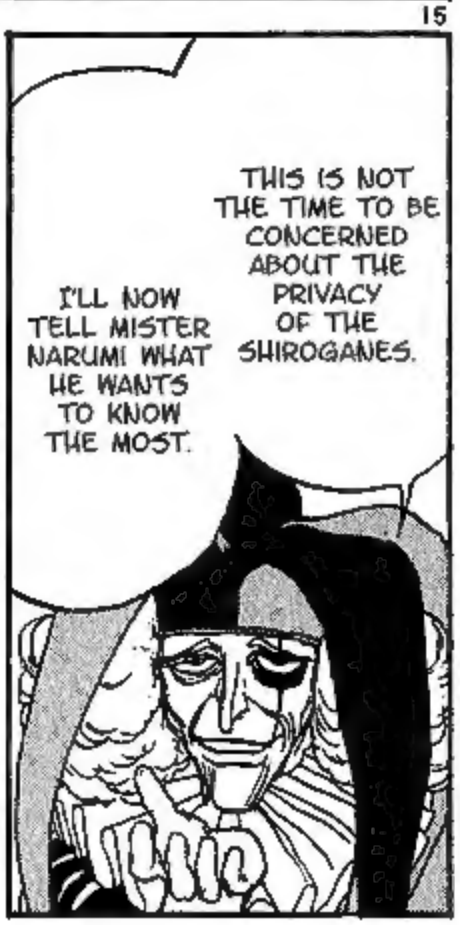
WHAT THE HELL.
THAT'S HORRIBLE!
DO NOT WORRY. IT'S PROGRAMMED TO ONLY TRANSMIT DATA RELATED TO THE AUTOMATA.


HUH...
Where did the doll Francine go?!
!


THAT'S RIGHT.
WHEN MING-HAI DEFEATED THE DOLL FRANCINE IN THE SAHARA TENT...
THIS IS... FROM BACK THEN...

NO WAY... THAT DOLL FRANCINE... WAS A FAKE...?

Lady Francine transferred this role to me...
And disappeared from this tent.


I'LL NOW TELL MISTER NARUMI WHAT HE WANTS TO KNOW THE MOST.
THIS IS NOT THE TIME TO BE CONCERNED ABOUT THE PRIVACY OF THE SHIROGANES.

MISS MING-XIA, PLEASE BE CONSIDERATE OF MISTER NARUMI'S FEELINGS AS TO WHY HE COULDN'T SAY IT, GIVEN THE SITUATION.

.....

I... I WAS SURE THAT MING-HAI HAD DESTROYED HER...

THAT DOESN'T MATTER.

WHAT I WANT TO KNOW IS...

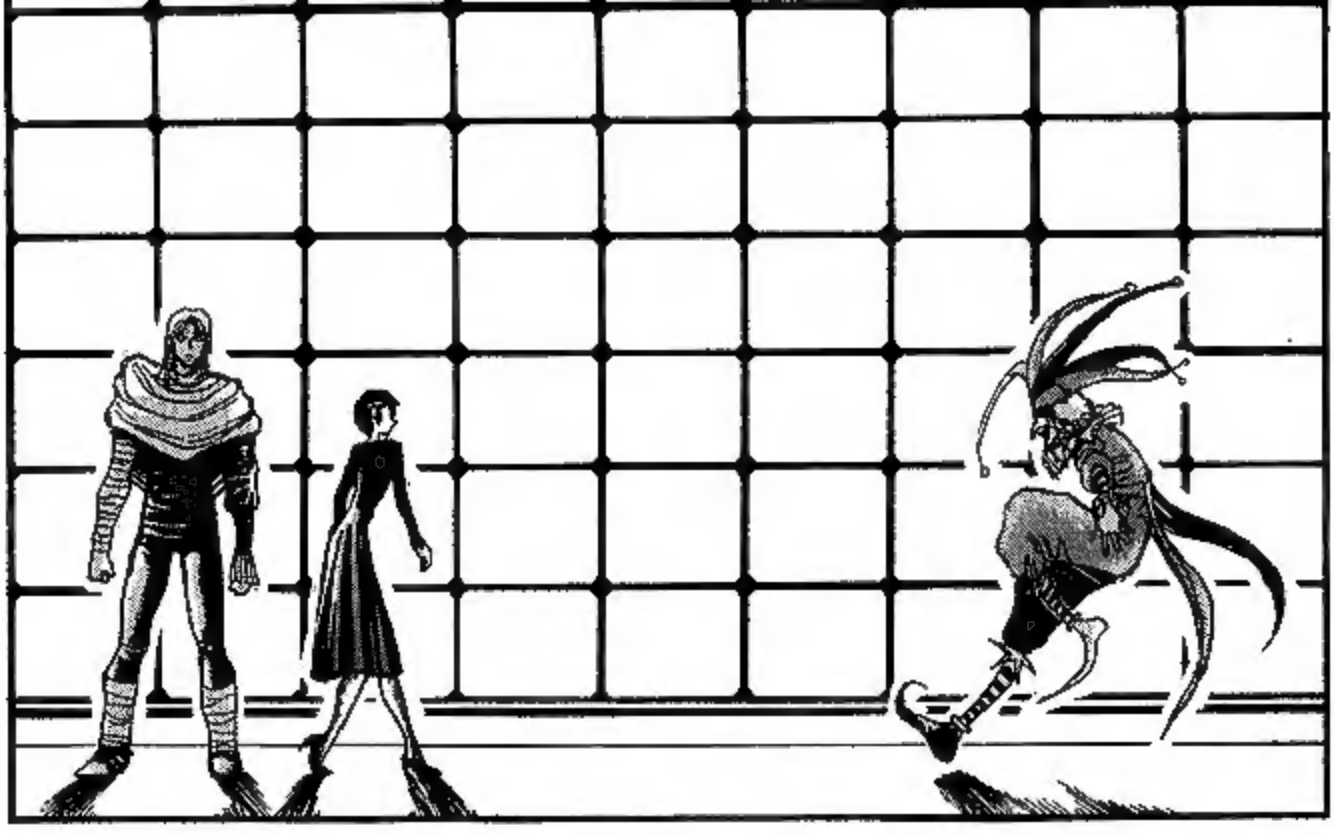
MISTER NARUMI WAS KEEPING THAT HEAVY BURDEN TO HIMSELF, THAT'S WHY HE COULDN'T SMILE IN FRONT OF YOU.

So please, let it go, Ming-Hai.



...THEN WHERE DID THE REAL LEADER OF THE AUTOMATA GO?!

THAT'S RIGHT! IF THE DOLL FRANCINE WE DEFEATED IN SAHARA WAS FAKE.....



I WAS PLANNING TO RUN AN EXPERIMENT WITH AN EARLY EYESECT MODEL, WHICH FUNCTIONED FOR A SHORT PERIOD TIME AND COULD ONLY TRANSMIT SOUND.

...WAS IN 1909...

THE FIRST TIME I USED THE EYE-SECTS...



GUY...

...A YOUNG SHIROGANE LAD CALLED GUY CHRISTOPHE RECH.

THE ONE I PUT THE EYESECTS ON WAS...

HIS FIRST JOB WAS TO GO ALL THE WAY TO JAPAN TO PURSUE A WOMAN WHO HID INSIDE HER BODY SOMETHING VERY IMPORTANT TO THE SHIROGANE.

SHIROGANE... NO, ELEONORE... I HEARD IT FROM HIM...
...THE UNDENIABLE TRUTH.

HOWEVER, DOLL FRANCINE HAD DISSOLVED IN THAT LIQUID, KEEPING HER CONSCIOUSNESS WITHIN IT.
WHEN YOU WERE YOUNG, YOU DRANK "AQUA VITAE" AND BECAME A SHIROGANE.

YOU TOOK DOLL FRANCINE AS A WHOLE, WHICH MEANS...
YOU ARE DOLL FRANCINE'S REIN-CARNATION.